

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/642,943	STEVENS, CARLILE R.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Thuy V. Tran	2821	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 08/18/2003 & Telephone Interview held 09/20/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4 and 8.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on \_\_\_\_\_ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 092004.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)                                |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                 | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>092004</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment  |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance                       |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

  
 Thuy V. Tran  
 Examiner  
 Art Unit: 2821

### DETAILED ACTION

This is a response to the Applicant's filing on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2003, the Applicant's response to notice to file corrected application papers filed on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003, and the telephone interview held on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Accordingly:

- Claims 1-8 are originally filed;
- Claims 2-3 and 5-7 are canceled by virtue of this interview; and thus
- Claims 1, 4, and 8 are now presented in the instant application.

### *Examiner's Amendment*

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Roger A. Marrs on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The amendment includes:

- ***In the Abstract:***

*Line 1, "with" should be changed to --includes--;*

*Line 3, "provides" should be changed to --is provided--;*

- ***In the Specification:***

*Page 1, delete "Priority Claimed on SN.60-281,841 filed 4-6-01 (ABANDONED) and Continuation in part of patent application SN. 10/104,076 filed 3-21-02 (PENDING)" and insert --This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial Number 10/104,076 filed 03/21/2002, which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,628,093; which claims the benefit of provisional application Serial Number 60/281,841 filed on 04/06/2001 and now abandoned-- therefor; and*

Art Unit: 2821

*Page 3, of "BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS", line 2, change "it's" to --its--;*

- ***In the claims:***

*Claim 1, line 3, change "a" to --an AC--;*

*Claim 1, line 4, change "a" (first occurrence) to --an--;*

*Claim 1, line 5, insert --one or more-- between "said" (first occurrence) and "gas"; change "device" to --devices--; insert --AC-- between "said" and "source"; and change ";" to --:--;*

*Claim 1, line 9, change "that operates" to --for generating--;*

*Claim 1, line 10, change "nearly" to --substantially--;*

*Claim 1, line 11, insert --one or more-- between "said" and "gas";*

*Claim 1, line 12, change "consisting of" to --comprising--; insert --one-- between "and" and "capacitor"; and insert --substantially-- after "the";*

*Claim 1, line 13, insert --a-- between "provide" and "proper"; and insert --one or more-- between "said" and "gas";*

*Claim 1, line 15, change "that controls the operation of" to --for controlling--; and delete "thus";*

*Claim 1, line 16, delete "the" and insert --thereby providing an-- therefor; insert --one or more-- between "said" and "gas"; change "device" to --devices--; and change "." to --:--;*

*Claim 1, starting from the line following line 16, add: --wherein there is a connection from said AC source of input power to said controlling device to detect and decode signals on said AC source of input power to adjust the operation of said discharge lighting system, and wherein said connection between said AC source of input power and said controlling device allows said controlling device to monitor if a portion of said AC source of input power is missing and said*

Art Unit: 2821

*controlling device adjusts the output to said one or more gas discharge devices based upon the missing portion source of input power--;*

*Claim 2: canceled;*

*Claim 3: canceled;*

*Claim 4, line 3, change "a" to --an AC--;*

*Claim 4, line 4, change "a" (first occurrence) to --an--;*

*Claim 4, line 5, delete "gas discharge lighting devices" and insert --one or more--therefor; insert --AC-- between "said" and "source"; and change ";" to --:--;*

*Claim 4, line 10, change "that operates" to --for generating--;*

*Claim 4, line 11, change "nearly" to --substantially--;*

*Claim 4, line 12, insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electro-luminescent";*

*Claim 4, line 13, change "consisting of" to --comprising--; insert --one capacitor--between "inductor" and "to"; and insert --substantially-- between "the" and "square";*

*Claim 4, line 14, insert --a-- between "provide" and "proper"; and insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electroluminescent";*

*Claim 4, line 15, change "that controls the operation of" to --for controlling--; and delete "thus";*

*Claim 4, line 16, delete "the" and insert --thereby providing an-- therefor; insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electroluminescent"; and change "." to --;--;*

*Claim 4, starting from the line following line 16, add: --wherein said controllable output direct current to alternating current inverter is comprised of two switches connected in series across the output of said power regulator; a junction of said switches connected to an inductor, the inductor has one end connected to one electrode of said one or more electroluminescent panels; other end of said one or more electroluminescent panel connected to a circuit common, and wherein there*

Art Unit: 2821

*is a connection from said AC source of input power to said controlling device to detect and decode signals on said AC source of input power to adjust the operation of said electroluminescent lighting system, and wherein said connection between said AC source of input power and said controlling device allows said controlling device to monitor if a portion of said AC source of input power is missing and said controlling device adjusts the output to said one or more electroluminescent lighting panels based upon the missing portion source of input power--;*

*Claim 5: canceled;*

*Claim 6: canceled;*

*Claim 7: canceled;*

*Claim 8, line 3, change "a" to --an AC--;*

*Claim 8, line 4, change "a" (first occurrence) to --an--; delete "gas discharge lighting device" and insert --one or more electroluminescent panels-- therefor;*

*Claim 8, line 5, insert --AC-- between "said" and "source"; and change ";" to --:--;*

*Claim 8, line 7, change "that operates" to --for generating--;*

*Claim 8, line 8, change "nearly" to --substantially--; and insert --,-- between "sound" and "coupled";*

*Claim 8, line 10, insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electro-luminescent";*

*Claim 8, line 11, change "consisting of" to --comprising--; insert --and one capacitor-between "inductor" and "to"; and insert --substantially-- between "the" and "square";*

*Claim 8, line 12, insert --a-- between "provide" and "proper"; and insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electroluminescent";*

*Claim 8, line 13, change "that controls the operation of" to --for controlling--; and delete "thus";*

Art Unit: 2821

*Claim 8, line 14, delete "the" and insert --thereby providing an-- therefor; and insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electroluminescent";*

*Claim 8, line 15, change "the" to --an--;*

*Claim 8, line 16, insert --one or more-- between "said" and "electroluminescent"; and change "panel" to --panels--; and change "." to --; and--;*

*Claim 8, starting from the line following line 16, add: --a power regulator connected to said alternating-to-direct current conversion means for converting its output to a regulated direct current to operate said electronic ballasting circuit, wherein said controllable output direct current to alternating current inverter is comprised of two switches connected in series across an output of said power regulator; a junction of said switches connected to an inductor, the inductor has one end connected to one electrode of said one or more electroluminescent panels; other end of said one or more electroluminescent panel connected to a circuit common, and wherein there is a connection from said AC source of input power to said controlling device to detect and decode signals on said AC source of input power to adjust the operation of said electroluminescent lighting system, and wherein said connection between said AC source of input power and said controlling device allows said controlling device to monitor if a portion of said AC source of input power is missing and said controlling device adjusts the output to said one or more electroluminescent lighting panels based upon the missing portion source of input power--;*

- ***In the drawings:***

*Fig. 1: labeled as --PRIOR ART--.*

*\*\*\* Applicant is also noted that a replacement set of drawings including all Figs. 1-5 with (1) corrected label Prior Art to Fig. 1, (2) figures 1-3 and 5 being separate from each other (not too close as originally filed), (3) correcting reference numerals 12, 24 in Fig. 2 (since reference characters "12, 24" have been used to designate both "AC input line" and "transformer", and*

*both “AC connection line” and “control module”, respectively) and (4) legible reference numerals, with exclusion/deletion of all the reference numerals not described in the specification (e.g. 84; 85, 87, etc. in Fig. 2) to Figs. 1-5 must be submitted as discussed during the interview held on 09/20/2004.*

***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 1, 4, and 8 are allowed.

***Reasons for Allowance***

3. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

Prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest:

- A gas discharge lighting system wherein there is a connection from said AC source of input power to said controlling device to detect and decode signals on said AC source of input power to adjust the operation of said discharge lighting system, and wherein said connection between said AC source of input power and said controlling device allows said controlling device to monitor if a portion of said AC source of input power is missing and said controlling device adjusts the output to said one or more gas discharge devices based upon the missing portion source of input power, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 1;
- An electroluminescent lighting system wherein there is a connection from said AC source of input power to said controlling device to detect and decode signals on said AC source of input power to adjust the operation of said electroluminescent lighting system, and wherein said connection between said AC source of input power and said controlling device allows said controlling device to monitor if a portion of said AC



Art Unit: 2821

source of input power is missing and said controlling device adjusts the output to said one or more electroluminescent lighting panels based upon the missing portion source of input power, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 4; and

- An electroluminescent lighting system wherein there is a connection from said AC source of input power to said controlling device to detect and decode signals on said AC source of input power to adjust the operation of said electroluminescent lighting system, and wherein said connection between said AC source of input power and said controlling device allows said controlling device to monitor if a portion of said AC source of input power is missing and said controlling device adjusts the output to said one or more electroluminescent lighting panels based upon the missing portion source of input power, in combination with the remaining claimed limitations as called for in independent claim 8.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Citation of relevant prior art***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Tao et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,696,803) discloses a simplified electronic ballast circuit for a discharge lamp.



Art Unit: 2821

Prior art Melis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,329,761) discloses a switch mode power inverter.

Prior art Roman (U.S. Patent No. 6,259,215) discloses an electronic ballast circuit.

Prior art Hedrei et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,072,283) discloses an electronic ballast circuit with a micro-controller.

Prior art Paul et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,677,602) discloses a high-frequency electronic ballast.

Prior art Luger (U.S. Patent No. 5,600,211) discloses an electronic ballast for gas discharge lamps.

Prior art Kuusisto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,574,338) discloses a control circuit for gas discharge lamps.

Prior art Griffin (U.S. Patent No. 5,371,439) discloses an electronic ballast for gas discharge lamps.

Prior art Stevens (U.S. Patent No. 4,277,728) discloses a power supply for a HID lamp.

### ***Inquiry***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-1828. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00 AM -5:00 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2821

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thuy V. Tran  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2821

09/20/2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuy V. Tran', is written over the printed name and title.